Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 01458 151642Z

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2750

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: FRIENDLY ATTITUDE OF ADECO LEADERS TOWARD THE UNITED STATES

I WAS INVITED LAST NIGHT TO A HUGE GALA PARTY STAGED AT THE CARACAS HILTON IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT-ELECT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ. HOSTS WERE A GROUP OF YOUNG THEATRICAL PEOPLE WHO HAD CAMPAIGNED FOR THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE AND WHO WANTED TO PAY HIM A TRIBUTE. THERE WERE PERHAPS A THOUSAND PEOPLE IN BLACK TIE AT THE AFFAIR. UPON MY ARRIVAL I WAS INVITED TO SIT AT THE PRESIDENTIAL TABLE AT WHICH ALSO WERE PRESENT FORMER PRESIDENT ROMULO BETANCOURT AND HIS WIFE; DONA BLANQUITA, THE NEW FIRST LADY-ELECT; AND GONZALO BARRIOS, PRESIDENT OF THE ADECO PARTY, EVERYONE WAS EXCEEDINGLY CORDIAL AND EXPRESSED WARM FEELINGS TOWARD THE UNITED STATES. SINCE WE WERE LITERALLY IN THE LIMELIGHT, THE PRESENCE OF THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR AS THE SOLE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE AT THE PRESIDENTIAL TABLE COULD SCARCELY GO UNNOTICED, AND I FELT SOME GHOSTLY TWINGES OF BECOMING A NEW ALLAN STEWART. HOWEVER, THE WARM REGARD EXPRESSED TOWARD OUR COUNTRY WAS GENUINE AND I THINK THAT THE EXERCISE, ALTHOUGH IMPROVISED, TURNED OUT TO BE BENEFICIAL. MCCLINTOCK

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Subject: FRIENDLY ATTITUDE OF ADECO LEADERS TOWARD THE UNITED STATES I WAS INVITED LAST NIGHT TO A HUGE GALA PARTY

STAGED AT

TAGS: PFOR, VE, (ANDRES PEREZ, CARLOS)
To: STATE

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